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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL:
SEPTEMBER 24, 25, 1975 - WABASCA

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Minutes Of A Meeting of the Northern Alb
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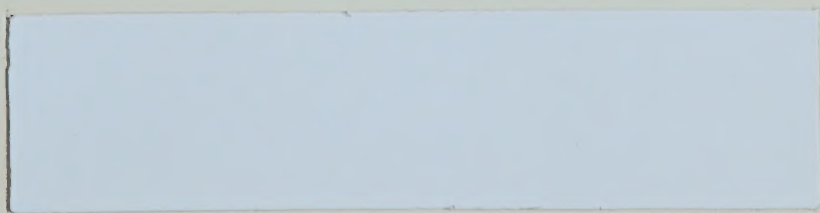
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MINUTES



WABASCA, September 24-25/75





I. MOTIONS PASSED

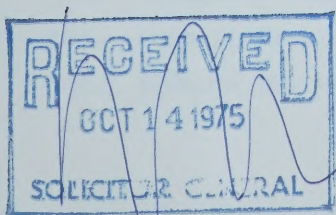
- 1) That the committee on the subject of the proposed amendments to the Act relating to the powers of the Board of Health be continued until the next meeting of the Board of Health.
- 2) That the committee on the subject of the proposed amendments to the Act relating to the powers of the Board of Health be continued until the next meeting of the Board of Health.
- 3) That the committee on the subject of the proposed amendments to the Act relating to the powers of the Board of Health be continued until the next meeting of the Board of Health.
- 4) That the committee on the subject of the proposed amendments to the Act relating to the powers of the Board of Health be continued until the next meeting of the Board of Health.
- 5) That the committee on the subject of the proposed amendments to the Act relating to the powers of the Board of Health be continued until the next meeting of the Board of Health.
- 6) That the committee on the subject of the proposed amendments to the Act relating to the powers of the Board of Health be continued until the next meeting of the Board of Health.
- 7) That the committee on the subject of the proposed amendments to the Act relating to the powers of the Board of Health be continued until the next meeting of the Board of Health.

II. IN ATTENDANCE WERE

- Northern Alberta Development Council
- Honorable H. W. Dowling, Chairman
 - Mrs. Martha Clark, Area 2
 - Mr. John Macdonald, Area 4
 - Mrs. Iva Lawrence, Area 4
 - Mr. Ian Pallant Jr., Area 5
 - Mr. Jim Fletcher, Area 6
 - Mr. Dennis Olson, Area 7
 - Mr. Larry Shaben, Area 8

WABASCA, September 24-25/75

Absent was Mr. Robert Dawson, Area 1



Minutes of the Meeting of the
NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

September 24, 25, 1975

I. MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) That repair of the water cisterns be placed as high as possible on list of Government priorities. The issue will be discussed at a closed session of Council tomorrow morning to come to a decision regarding immediate recommendations to Government on the problem of providing potable water for the community. CARRIED.
- 2) That Alberta Environment take immediate steps to upgrade two water points, one in Wabasca and one in Desmarais so that the truck for water hauling may be properly utilized. It was also recommended that Alberta Environment supply all residences in the two communities with 40-gallon capacity heavy plastic containers so that each home will have a potable water supply for the winter while a long term solution to the water problem is being determined. CARRIED.
- 3) That Council enthusiastically support improved C.B.C. TV coverage for the Town of Slave Lake. Support for a second TV station will be considered secondary to the upgrading of the existing facility. CARRIED.
- 4) That Council encourage Alberta Transportation to make a decision as soon as possible whether to upgrade the existing airstrip at McLennan or to construct a new one. It is also recommended that studies to determine the suitability of the land earmarked for the new airstrip continue at least until the afore-mentioned decision is reached. CARRIED.
- 5) That Alberta Government Telephones be contacted to ensure that good mobile communication coverage will result from the construction of an additional tower at Fahler. A.G.T. will be asked if path tests have been completed to indicate extent and quality of coverage. CARRIED.
- 6) That Mr. Leriger visit the community to assess the situation and report to Council with recommendations. CARRIED (Chipewyan Lake Road Construct
- 7) That the Preventive Social Service Branch of Alberta Social Services and Community Health and Alberta Native Affairs be encouraged to provide additional funds necessary for the Isolated Communities Advisory Board to continue in its efforts. If these funds cannot be made available, then the Northern Development Group will provide interim funding for the rest of the fiscal year. CARRIED.

II. IN ATTENDANCE WERE

Northern Alberta Development Council

Honorable R. W. Dowling, Chairman
Mrs. Bertha Clark, Area 2
Mr. John Porozni, Area 3
Mr. Ike Lawrence, Area 4
Mr. Len Pelland Jr., Area 5
Mr. Jim Fletcher, Area 6
Mr. Dennis Olson, Area 7
Mr. Larry Shaben, M.L.A.

Absent was Mr. Robert Duncan, Area 1

II. IN ATTENDANCE WERE (continued)

Municipal Affairs

Honorable Dick Johnston, Minister
W. S. Fleming, Assistant Deputy Minister Administrative Services
Paul Leriger, I.D. Administrator (Westlock)

Environment

Allen Kerr, Head, Groundwater Development
Roger Hardick, Groundwater Development
John Olson, Groundwater Development

Advanced Education and Manpower

Dave Hubert, Alberta Vocational Centre (Lac La Biche)

Native Affairs

Jane Fournier, Fort McMurray

Treasury

Doug Keith, Budget Bureau

Public Affairs Bureau

Pat Gingras

Business Development and Tourism

Don Hayes, Travel Alberta
John Scott, Lac La Biche Regional Economic Development Council
John Barron, Communications
Vic Hartfield, Regional Services
Elden Schorn, Northern Development Group
Roy Piepenburg, Northern Development Group
Rick Paley, Northern Development Group

Department of Regional Economic Expansion (Federal Government)

Nelson Ball
Budd Bewell
Reg Adam

Métis Association of Alberta

Harry Daniels
Henry Houle
Jim Tompkins

III. BRIEFS WERE PRESENTED BY

136. Alvin Hershberger, "Community of Calling Lake"
137. Father Jean, "Desmarais-Wabasca United (Mamawintowin)"
138. Leonard Houle, "Problems with Water Hauling Truck"
139. Marion Wolitski, "Wabasca-Desmarais Recreation Association"
140. Isolated Communities Advisory Board, "Support for Communications Technology Satellite" (read by Thelma Bellerose)
141. Thelma Bellerose, "Slave Lake Native Friendship Centre"
142. Isolated Communities Advisory Board, "Area Concerns" (read by Thelma Bellerose)
143. Isolated Communities Advisory Board, "Research Proposal for Development of Local Government in Isolated Communities"
144. George D. Auger, "Land Tenure"
145. Lac La Biche Regional Economic Development Council (Dave Hubert)
"Dental Care Problems in Lac La Biche"
146. George D. Auger, "Assessment of Community Needs" (Hutchings Report)
147. Hugh Pepper, "Intercultural Education Proposal"
148. Leonard Houle (Métis Local 161), "Community Concerns"

III. BRIEFS (continued)

149. Lorne Wiltzen, Anzac, "Hiring Practices in Fort McMurray"
 150. Town of Slave Lake, "Request for Improved TV Coverage"
 151. Town of McLennan, "McLennan Municipal Airport"
 152. Slave Lake Beach Road Action Committee, "Lesser Slave Lake
Provincial Park"
 153. Community of Chipewyan Lakes, "Request for Funds to Upgrade Roads
in Community"
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- 1) Elden Schorn, Executive Director of the Northern Development Group, called to meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Schorn briefly explained the role of the Northern Alberta Development Council, indicating that all members are residents of Northern Alberta. He stated that the Council regularly holds public meetings in Northern Alberta communities to hear concerns and then works with departments of government in attempting to find solutions to the problems. It was stressed that Council advises government, but does not have the power to make decisions. Mr. Schorn then introduced the Chairman of the Northern Alberta Development Council, the Honorable Bob Dowling, Minister of Business Development and Tourism, also responsible for Northern Development.
- 2) Mr. Dowling welcomed delegates from the Isolated Communities Advisory Board, the Lac La Biche Regional Economic Development Council, the Métis Association of Alberta, and all those from other communities who would be presenting briefs at Council's first meeting in Wabasca-Desmarais. The Chairman then introduced the Honorable Dick Johnston, Minister of Municipal Affairs; Larry Shaben, M.L.A. for Lesser Slave Lake constituency and newly-appointed member of the Northern Alberta Development Council; all other Council members present and various government resource personnel who were in attendance to help answer questions and advise Council.

- 3) The meeting was opened for the presentation of briefs.

Brief 136: Community of Calling Lake: submitted by Alvin Hershberger.
Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Brief 137: Wabasca-Desmarais United (Mamawintowin): submitted by
Father Jean. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Brief 138: Problems with the Water Hauling Truck: submitted verbally
by Mr. Leonard Houle. Council requested a written submission
to be accepted for consideration.

As it was apparent that problems relating to the installation of water cisterns in January/February 1975 formed the focal point of many of the briefs to be presented, the Chairman called on Mr. Allen Kerr, Head of Groundwater Development Branch, Alberta Environment, to give a brief resumé of events leading to installation of the cisterns, an analysis of the problems encountered, and an indication of directions to be followed. Mr. Kerr explained why the cistern design was deemed acceptable and gave details of the accumulation of problems encountered during and after installation. It was determined by August 22, 1975 that 97 out of 107 cisterns installed were faulty. On September 19, 1975 Alberta Environment engaged a concrete consultant to determine the cause of failure and possibilities and cost of repair. In the meantime, water points will be upgraded both in Wabasca and Desmarais so that the water hauling truck may be properly utilized and provide potable water for the communities for the winter. Mr. Kerr indicated that Alberta Environment will be experimenting with a steel cistern installed in a bored hole, and if satisfactory, will be considered for use in Wabasca-Desmarais if the concrete cisterns are unable to be repaired. A consultant has also been engaged to study the Wabasca water treatment plant. In all probability, the plant will be replaced in the coming year.

Brief 139: Wabasca-Desmarais Recreation Association: submitted by Mr.
Marion Wolitski. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Brief 140: Support for Communications Technology Satellite: submitted
by the Isolated Communities Advisory Board (Mr. William Beaver,
President), and read by Ms. Thelma Bellerose. Council accepted
the brief for consideration.

Brief 141: Slave Lake Native Friendship Centre: submitted by Ms. Thelma Bellerose. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Brief 142: Concerns of the Isolated Communities: submitted by the Isolated Communities Advisory Board and read by Ms. Thelma Bellerose. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Brief 143: Research Proposal for the Development of Local Government in Isolated Communities: submitted by the Isolated Communities Advisory Board and read by Ms. Thelma Bellerose. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

At this point the Chairman noted that not only are land tenure and local government major topics of concern at the meeting tonight, but represent vital issues for the entirety of Northern Alberta. He added a note of caution, however, as severe inflationary spirals have encouraged the government to drastically reduce levels of budgetary expansion, limiting the number and breadth of new programs.

In a comment from the floor, Mr. Harry Daniels of the Métis Association of Alberta requested that more Native people be appointed to the Northern Alberta Development Council. He suggested that Mr. Harold Cardinal, President of the Indian Association of Alberta, and Mr. Ambrose Laboucane, President of the Métis Association of Alberta, would be the most appropriate choices. Mr. Len Pelland, Jr., Council representative for Area 5 stated that Mrs. Bertha Clark represents Native issues to the Council extremely well. Mr. William Beaver, President of the Isolated Communities Advisory Board, felt more Natives on the Council would help speak for that large segment of the northern population. The meeting was informed by Mr. Dowling that Council geographical representation is being analyzed, and that nominations for Council members from residents of Northern Alberta are welcomed.

The Chairman called on the Honorable Dick Johnston to outline the government's plans in relation to land tenure, an issue of the highest priority for Northern communities.

Mr. Johnston began by stating that the public meeting had already raised serious items for government to consider. The Alberta Government is receptive to Northern and Native problems, as the Honorables R. W. Dowling and R. Bogle, Mr. Shaben and the Council are instrumental in bringing them forward.

The land tenure program is now assembled and required funding. Although government must be careful in maintaining a manageable level of new expenditures, \$100,000 will be found for the 1975/76 first stage of the program to begin in Wabasca-Desmarais. Several resource personnel will be hired, including a director, Native communicators and later, surveyors and legal assistance. The Land Tenure program is expected to be completed in three years. Mr. Johnston then answered a number of questions concerning details of the program.

Mr. Daniels of the Métis Association declared from the floor that a land tenure solution can't wait. In his opinion, northern lands are being swallowed by economic development which is bypassing the Native people. Help is needed for Native entrepreneurial activity now to allow Native people to take advantage of potential economic activities.

Mr. Johnston replied that Mr. Daniels was dealing with much more than the question of land tenure. Preliminary plans for the Wabasca solution are ready to be shown so that the people can see what is being done.

Mr. Dowling commented that land tenure and local government are the keys to solutions of other thorny issues such as housing, economic development, recreation and employment.

The meeting was then re-opened for the presentation of briefs.

Brief 144: Land Tenure: submitted by George D. Auger. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Brief 145: Dental Services in Northern Areas: submitted by Dave Hubert of the Lac La Biche Regional Economic Development Council. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Brief 146: Assessment of Community Needs (Hutchings Report): submitted by George D. Auger. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Brief 147: Intercultural Education Proposal: submitted verbally by Hugh Pepper. When a written submission is received, Council will accept the brief for consideration.

Brief 148: Community Concerns: submitted verbally by Mr. Leonard Houle, President of Métis Local 161. When a written submission is received, Council will accept the brief for consideration.

At this point Paul Gladue of Métis Local 161 requested Council to resolve the many faceted dispute between the two Métis locals in the community. He was informed by the Chairman that such issues involve only the membership of the two organizations, and that any difficulties must be sorted out by them alone.

More discussion resulted in relation to problems resulting from the water cistern installations.

It was moved by Len Pelland Jr., seconded by Jim Fletcher that repair of the water cisterns be placed as high as possible on list of government priorities. The issue will be discussed at a closed session of Council on September 25th to come to a decision regarding immediate recommendations to government on the problem of providing potable water for the community.

CARRIED.

Brief 149: Hiring Practices in Fort McMurray: submitted verbally by Mr. Lorne Wiltzen of Anzac. When a written brief is submitted, Council will accept it for consideration.

- 4) The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and especially those who travelled many miles to present briefs. Assurance was given to the audience that all the questions raised in the briefs would receive responses. Mr. William Beaver was asked by the Chairman to close the meeting with a prayer.
 - 5) The meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m. A social followed during which community residents were able to speak informally with the two Ministers, the Northern Alberta Development Council members, and government resource personnel. Sandwiches and coffee were served.
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CLOSED SESSION
September 25, 1975
Desmarais School Residence Gymnasium

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., indicating that recommendations concerning the water cistern problems would be the first item on the agenda.

- 1) Mr. Pelland stated that the concrete cistern design was not appropriate for water tanks. In his opinion, fibreglass water holding tanks with a buried line to each house should have been the method employed. Mr. Shaben expressed apprehension that solution of the land tenure problem may result in the necessity of moving cisterns and even houses.

It was moved by Len Pelland, Jr. and seconded by Jim Fletcher that Alberta Environment take immediate steps to upgrade two water points, one in Wabasca and one in Desmarais so that the truck for water hauling may be properly utilized. It was also recommended that Alberta Environment supply all residences in Wabasca-Desmarais with 40-gallon capacity heavy plastic containers so that each home will have a potable water supply for the winter while a long term solution to the water problem is being determined.

CARRIED.

- 2) The Chairman asked Mr. Schorn to present the latest information concerning planning for the "Opportunity North" Conference. Mr. Schorn stated that commitments have been received from all proposed speakers. Plans for the tours are not yet formalized because participants must first indicate interest before choices of locations are made. In any case, Cabinet Ministers will not participate in the tours because heavy schedules will not allow them to attend the entire conference. Mr. Schorn noted that Premier Lougheed's suggestions concerning conference topics will be included in the proposed format. These are: hydro-electric developments in Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories; and the impact on Alberta by the proposed MacKenzie Valley pipeline.

Beginning immediately, press, radio and television media will be dispensing information on the conference, and a news conference will be held in Peace River on September 26 to publicize the event.

- 3) The Chairman then called for the presentation of briefs which were not heard at the public meeting because of time restrictions.

Brief 150: Request for Improved T.V. Coverage: submitted by the Town of Slave Lake and presented by L. Pelland, Jr. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

It was moved by Len Pelland, seconded by Larry Shaben that Council enthusiastically support improved C.B.C. TV coverage for the Town of Slave Lake. Support for a second TV station will be considered secondary to the upgrading of the existing facility.

CARRIED.

In regard to this motion, Mr. Shaben indicated that he possesses considerable correspondence on the matter, and will forward copies of it to the Northern Development Group to aid follow-up procedures.

Brief 151: McLennan Municipal Airport: submitted by the Town of McLennan, presented by L. Pelland, Jr. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

It was moved by Len Pelland, seconded by Jim Fletcher that Council encourage Alberta Transportation to make a decision as soon as possible whether to upgrade the existing airstrip or to construct a new one. It is also recommended that studies to determine the suitability of the land earmarked for the new airstrip continue at least until the afore-mentioned decision is reached.

CARRIED.

Further information received on Brief 117: Mobile Radio Communications was discussed.

It was moved by Len Pelland, seconded by Dennis Olson that A.G.T. be contacted to ensure that good mobile communication coverage will result from the construction of an additional tower at Fahler. A.G.T. will be asked if path tests have been completed to indicate extent and quality of coverage.

CARRIED.

Brief 152: Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park: submitted by Slave Lake Beach Road Action Committee, read by L. Shaben. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Brief 153: Request for Funds to Upgrade Community Roads: submitted by the Community of Chipewyan Lakes. Council accepted the brief for consideration.

Mr. Paul Leriger, I.D. Administrator for the area, informed Council that Chipewyan Lakes had received \$7,000 for the purpose of improving roads last year, and an equal amount two years ago from Alberta Lands and Forests for the same reason.

It was moved by the Honorable R. W. Dowling, seconded by Dennis Olson that Mr. Leriger visit the community to assess the situation and report to Council with recommendations.

CARRIED.

Mr. Leriger agreed that he would do the above.

- 4) The Chairman requested the Honorable Dick Johnston, Minister of Municipal Affairs, to inform Council of the latest developments concerning establishment of the proposed Land Tenure Secretariat.

Mr. Johnston stated that a Special Warrant for \$134,000 is being developed to fund the program; implementation is expected to begin during October, 1975.

Mr. Pelland and Mr. Shaben expressed reservations that Native people may not be fully aware of all the implications of land ownership such as responsibility to pay taxes. Mr. Johnston replied that a tax moratorium of from three to five years will probably be instituted.

Mr. Fletcher remarked that different Native groups seem to have varied conceptions of the nature of land tenure. William Beaver, President of the Isolated Communities Advisory Board is supportive of joint co-operative ownership while residents of Wabasca-Desmarais appear to prefer individual plots.

- 5) General discussion followed on the concept of the development of local government in unorganized Northern communities. The Chairman recapped developments to this point, and concluded by stating that the R.F.D. concerning local government received approval in principle without special fund allocation by Cabinet. It was indicated that the funds should come from the budget of Municipal Affairs. Mr. Schorn added that the Isolated Communities Advisory Board has requested the Northern Development Group to provide funding for their activities until the end of this fiscal year. This could be done, but future funding for the organization from Municipal Affairs does not appear to be forthcoming.

Mr. Johnston stated that Local Government Implementation is not a major priority for Municipal Affairs, recommending that the Improvement District Advisory Committee structure should be pursued by interested groups or communities. He noted that the Isolated Communities Advisory Board is not an officially-sanctioned body.

Mr. Shaben stated that support in some form should continue for the Isolated Communities Advisory Board, and recommended that adult education workshops organized by Community Vocational Centres in isolated communities should be geared to local understanding of land tenure and the implications of local government. Mr. Schorn indicated that proposed expansion of the C.V.C.'s includes the incorporation of this concept.

It was moved by Jim Fletcher, seconded by Len Pelland that the Preventive Social Services Branch of Alberta Social Services and Community Health and Alberta Native Affairs be encouraged to provide additional funds necessary for the Isolated Communities Advisory Board to continue its efforts. If these funds cannot be made available, then the Northern Development Group will provide interim funding for the rest of the fiscal year.

CARRIED.

The Chairman thanked the Honorable Minister of Municipal Affairs for taking the time to attend the meeting, and for his informative comments.

- 6) It was agreed that the next meeting of the Northern Alberta Development Council will be a closed session held in Peace River on October 23, 1975.
- 7) The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Attachments: Briefs Received September 24th

Date of Distribution: October 7, 1975

RPP:wm

BRIEF 136

Calling Lake Concerns

Submitted by Alvin Herschberger

We three presenting this brief represent the people of Calling Lake and its three organizations which are the Community Association which is registered under the Societies Act and its concern is with the activities of general interest to the community; the Moccasin Coop a registered association representing the Métis people and the special concerns of the Métis people; and the Treaty people who have no local organization but are under the Bigstone Band at Wabasca-Desmarais and who also have interest that should be presented.

Calling Lake is a community of more than 500 people. About 120 are Treaty, 90 are white and 300 plus are Métis.

A meeting of the elected officers of the Moccasin Coop and the Calling Lake Community Association was held to discuss matters that should be brought to the attention of the Northern Development Council. This brief attempts to bring to focus the needs and concerns of the represented people of Calling Lake.

Perhaps we should present the general concerns of the people before we go into detail from the groups we represent. The following are the general concerns of the people of Calling Lake, whether they are white, Métis or Treaty:

- 1) Water System: The majority of the people of Calling Lake request that an urgent attention be given to the water system that Calling Lake presently has. Many homes are not properly equipped to any water facilities. The hardships of many improper water facilities fall on those who are hauling water in the cold weather of winter. Proper facilities should be looked into as soon as possible.
- 2) Housing: This is another major concern from everyone and should be given serious consideration before the cold winter sets in. Many homes are not fit to accommodate families for the winter as they are in bad need of winterizing. An urgent request is made to start winterizing these homes within the next few weeks.
- 3) Establishment of Community Park: This is requested by the people and would like to have this accessible to the people on a recreation basis where facilities such as playground and picnic tables could be provided for the people of the local community.
- 4) Land Claims: It is the general concern of the local people to question the expanding activities of the provincial park located in our community. The provincial park has expanded vastly in the past several years that if it continues

to expand it will pose problems for the local people regarding the amount of land they may or may not have. As it stands now the amount of land allotted to each family is not even enough to have a decent garden. This provincial expansion of the park should be thoroughly looked into before the local people are forced to lose more land to the park.

Following are the presentations of the three organizations of Calling Lake:

1) Community Association of Calling Lake

A. Calling Lake Provincial Park

The planning of the Calling Lake Provincial Park has progressed with little or no consultation of the local people. The people of Calling Lake will need to give up land for trapping, hunting, guiding, and future expansion. Drinking water from the lake will be polluted. We do not know what damage there will be to the lake, to the fish in the lake, nor to the beaches. We do not know how accessible the beaches will be to the community.

The community has not been informed of the projected size of the park. Rumors run of the projected plans of the total west side of the lake up to the Rock Island River and north of there being included with a 100,000 people capacity.

At a local political meeting before the last provincial election there were promises of up to 25 jobs for the local people but so far few have been able to find employment to the park.

2) Moccasin Co-op

A. Housing

Indications have been that Alberta Housing Corp. is introducing a housing program in areas of Northern Alberta which will include Calling Lake. The Moccasin Co-op supports the principal of locally built homes. The homeowner should have a choice of his house design, choice as to where to buy his materials, and choice of the quality of material. Locally built homes can cost as little as \$5,000 as compared to \$18 to \$20 thousand for non-locally built homes. It is felt that the owners would take better care of the home. Very important, local employment would be provided. Many homes need improvement for the coming winter. It is a bad time of the year to get logs for peeling and the bush is very wet. Immediate aid is needed for some homes.

B) Land Claims

With the park and better roads more people will use the Calling Lake area. The land used by the Métis will no longer be available to the people for hunting, trapping, logging and future expansion. In the future the Métis will need more land, land that is well-drained and close to the lakes and streams. Some have horses, some would like domesticated animals, but the amount of land allotted to the Métis at present is only two acres, therefore, are unable to raise such animals. The Métis people are not able to even cultivate any gardens due to the insufficient amount of land allotted to them.

C) Employment

These opportunities in Calling Lake are very limited. Full time jobs are required by the family men of the community. Jobs are very scarce. If any form of local industry could be provided to help alleviate the employment problem.

3) Treaty Representation of Calling Lake

A) Housing

The Treaty people of Calling Lake would request that better housing be provided for many of the local families. Attempts have been made by supplying trailers to the people but too few have been looked after.

B) The needs of the Treaty people are similar to the rest of the residents of the community. There is also a growing concern of better representation for the Treaty people of this area as they do not run their own affairs, but are run by the Bigstone Band at Wabasca. If the treaty people of Calling Lake were better represented a lot of their needs and concerns may be alleviated.

REQUESTS BEING MADE BY THE PEOPLE OF CALLING LAKE

1) Recognition by Alberta Government that the people of Calling Lake are competing for land, water resources, beach, game, fish, etc. and that Calling Lake is traditionally used as a way of life and that the residents are needing to make adjustments. It is only fair that aid be given to adjust to the new situation.

- 2) Information and consultation about the projected size and plans for the Calling Lake Provincial Park.
- 3) Opportunity for employment locally at the Park.
- 4) A study of a 20-year projection of the ecological effects of the Park and other developments the Government may have for the area, and access to the findings by the community.
- 5) Locally-built Alberta Housing Corp. homes
- 6) Immediate aid for winterizing ten homes. The aid being available through the Opportunity Corp.

These needs and concerns of the people of Calling Lake have been presented to you as they are seen by the people of Calling Lake and now it is up to Government to come up with possible solutions to the many problems that concern us. The needs of the people are urgent and genuine, therefore, we hope that the responses by the Government will be likewise. We, the representatives of Calling Lake truly hope that we have done the ones we represent some justice and we hope that the people of Calling Lake will have the chance to have some of their requests answered.

We thank you.

BRIEF 137

D & W Mamawintowin submission
to N.A.D.C. on September 24, 1975

Brief #2.
Brief #131.
J. Jean Sec.

D & W MAMAWINTOWIN
(Desmarais & Wabasca United)

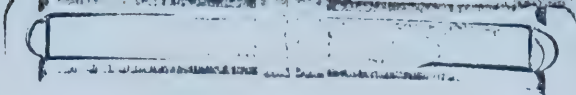
Brief presented to the Northland Development Council on this 24th day of September 1975.

The MAMAWINTOWIN had a meeting of the Board Members on September 12th 1975 and wishes to bring the following to the attention of the Northland Council.

- I. Land Tenure. This is the first and foremost problem of the Community at the present time. A Land Tenure Committee was elected at a meeting of MAMAWINTOWIN and KEENEWETINOK, Metis Local 129, on March 3rd. As George Auger Chairman of the Committee will present a brief on this matter we will not repeat it here.
- II. Water. Water tanks were installed last winter at the homes. However they are still not working. Many of the tanks are leaking and unusable at the present condition they are in. We were fully assured by the Department that these tanks will work even though they were advised of the tanks on the reserves which are also leaking and cannot be used. As it now stands people are still out of water and have these tanks full of polluted water. It would appear the Department has spent a vast amount of money without any results. It would also appear that the Department is not anxious to correct the problem they have created. The water system at either end is inadequate. The one at Desmarais is located at the Residential Building and the future of this building is very much up in the air at the present time. Many a time water cannot be obtained or is very limited. The one in Wabasca, we understand that a new pump house is to be built some time in October 1975. We trust this is correct and it should solve some of our water problems.
- III. Lagoon. There is one at Desmarais and one at Wabasca not totally satisfactory. The one at Desmarais is far too close to the buildings. At Wabasca a new lagoon was installed but once again it has not been completed properly.
- IV. AIRSTRIPE. We understand that the airstrip was to be upgraded. However up to date nothing has been done. We believe that lighting around the airstrip should also be included in the upgrading.
- V. ROADS. The road between the two communities should also be improved. There is not enough gravel and it should also be oiled. Driving in the dust at the present time is dangerous and any one living along the road cannot keep the dust out of the homes. The corner at MISTASINIA School is very dangerous and steps should be taken to correct this problem.
- VI. FIRE EQUIPMENT. None in either Community. The water truck is equipped with fire fighting but at present time not used because the two water systems cannot handle it.
- VII. Local INDUSTRY. This should be encouraged in every way possible. This will give employment to the local people and do away with some welfare.
- VIII. NATURAL GAS. This has been discovered in the area and see why not it it could not be used to service the two Communities Wabasca-Desmarais locally.
- IX. POWER RATES. We believe that the surcharge of five per cent should be removed. Most families are of low income and it seems rather odd that they should be paying one of the highest rates in the Province.
- X. POST OFFICE. We would like postal service increased from twice weekly to three times a week.

(Concluding). We fully understand that the Northland Council is not at the present time in a position to solve these problems but we wish to bring them to their attention.

J. Jean Sec.



Brief 138: oral presentation by Leonard Houle on
requesting two water points in the
two communities - awaiting written submission

BRIEF 139

Wabasca-Desmarais Recreation Association

Bill # 139

WABASCA DESMARAIIS RECREATION ASSOCIATION

The total population in the Wabasca - Desmarais area is over 2500. there are just over 500 students, (grades 1 to 10), attending the two schools. St. Theresa, at Wabasca, and Mistassiniy, at Desmarais.

As far as recreation is concerned, neither community has very much to offer. At Desmarais, Mistassiniy has a gymnasium, and there is another at the Residential school, (which cannot be used because it is not known who has control of the building). On the Residential school property there is a ball diamond and a skating rink. The playground at Mistassiniy school is being improved by Northland School Division.

Wabasca, has even less to offer. There is a skating rink at the Development Center, but no ball diamond. There is a gym. at St. Theresa and a small gym. at the Development Center, (which is now being used as a lunch room for the students attending St. Theresa school). The playground at St. Theresa, is small and contains a ball diamond that is unsuitable for playing ball.

Both Wabasca and Desmarais, should have more to offer, as far as recreation is concerned. The people will take part if given the opportunity. This is particularly true with the younger generation. For example, for the first time we held a sports day in June and the turn out was good. We hired a summer Recreation Director, (Jim Canil), and he had 17 fast ball teams organized and playing. This included boys and girls, from the squirts age group right up to adults. There was a problem getting coaches for all the teams but

it was managed. However, the biggest problem was that all games had to be played on one diamond. This gave no opportunity for any team to practice. It also meant a fair amount of travelling for some of the younger players.

A weekly paper was also started and run by young adults, (high school students), and supervised by the Recreation Director. Here again the response was good.

Last winter a curling day was organized, where by we rented the rink in Slave Lake for the day. We had good interest with 14 teams taking part. We have had people asking already if we are going to do the same this year. We made a small jam can rink beside the St. Theresa school. This was used with interest, but there were many problems. With only a little snow on the ice the rocks were prevented from sliding, it was often too cold for curling, (with the wind blowing off the lake), and the rocks being made out of cement were somewhat light.

The biggest and formost problem is the lack of land set aside for recreational purposes. Neither Wabasca or Desmarais has any land set aside for recreation. Nothing can actually be planned or developed until this ia settled. For example. How do we plan a curling rink when there is no place to put it. Or, if one is built and in a few years we find it in the wrong place. Without any doubt, land should be designated for recreational purposes in both Wabasca and Desmarais. This way it could be developed imidiately.

For the

3.

Park benches and tables could be installed, playgrounds with slides and swings could be built, and ball diamonds set up just to mention a few things that could be done, given land to do it on. Also major items could be planned, such as a curling rink and an arena. This would give the young people a common place to get together and something to look forward to from day to day. To take it a step farther, it would give the young people an opportunity to compete with the outside on more equal terms.

*Marion Wolitoki
Wobasca Alta*

BRIEF 140

Isolated Communities Advisory Board

C.T.S. Project - A.N.C.S.

presented by Thema Bell vs. Bishop 140.
William Beaves

Communication Technology
Satellite

The Isolated Communities Advisory Board supports C.T.S. project.

The I.C. A. B. has been advised of the communications technology satellite experiment planned by A.N.C.S. and is anxious to have as many of its member communities as possible participate in it.

While we realize that the C.T.S. Project is an experiment of limited duration we are convinced that involvement in it even for the short time available can be of great benefit to the I.C.A.B., its member communities and the individual native people involved.

One of the greatest disadvantages of our isolation, and the one that is the biggest barrier to the resolution of our problems, is lack of information and the difficulties, that time and distance creates in attaining it. The C.T.S. Project would provide valuable assistance not only in obtaining information, but in teaching our people how to acquire information independently.

Another value of the C.T.S. Project will be to bridge the isolation among our member communities, for their isolation from each other is a very real barrier to their working together effectively and cooperatively.

We are confident that C.T.S. can help to establish a flow of communication and cooperation among them which can be maintained when the experiment ends whether or not there is a formal system of communication hardware to enable it to function.

Finally, we are convinced that even brief involvement of individual native people in the experiment will give them a new level of knowledge, awareness and understanding which will be of immeasurable benefit to them by motivating them to pursue their own best interests and providing them with the knowledge to do it more successfully.

VERBAL

Brief 141

Helma Bellrose
Native Friendship Centre

BRIEF 142

Isolated Communities Advisory Board

Community Concerns

Bill #142
William Brown

PREAMBLE

We, of the Isolated Communities Advisory Board, on behalf of our constituents; Cadotte Lake, Peerless Lake, Little Buffalo, Trout (Graham Lake) Lake, Loon Lake, Chipewyan Lake, Sandy Lake, are presenting this brief for your consideration. Our mutual concerns have predicted that we approach you in this manner. Included are concerns which will be outlined in the main body.

1. Land Tenure
2. Housing
3. Employment
4. Education
5. Roads and Airstrips
6. Electrification
7. Budget for the Department of Native Affairs.

RATIONALE

To be able to realistically plan for the future, the people existing (living) in the Isolated Communities Advisory Board area, who for the large majority are living on Crown Land, the Land Tenure question has to be dealt with in a systematic, objective manner. Of mutual concern to the Isolated Communities Advisory Board and constituents, and the Provincial Government is the resolution of the Land Tenure question.

The socio-economic needs of the native people cannot be met without this vitally important pre-requisite being dealt with. The need to identify with a piece of land is inherent in societies globally, whether they be market/industrial or gathering/tribal in nature.

In order to meet our housing, employment, education and other needs such as roads and airstrips, the unrelenting Land Tenure situation must be met head-on by all concerned.

To ensure that we, as native people are productive in our endeavours to deal with the situation, it is the responsibility of the Provincial Government to provide us with the afore mentioned tools to deal in a manner expected of responsible people. Given the fact that in our present monetary situation we cannot respond to our needs, we suggest that the Provincial Government react to our request for funding in a positive manner,

so that we may implement a land, economic research project which we are in the process of drawing up.

In conclusion, may we respectfully suggest, that we as responsible people will enhance future negotiations provided that we are afforded the opportunity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

LAND TENURE

1. Secure sufficient funding to enable the Isolated Communities Advisory Board to do a land usage study and socio-economic requirements based on present and future needs:
 - a) to hire sufficient expertise; vis a vis co-ordinator, trained competent researchers, typists, legal advice, historic research advice, economic advice, etc.
 - b) the research, done by native people and enhanced by outside expertise when required would do studies in;
 - 1) historic research of the region that the Isolated Communities Advisory Board is responsible for
 - 11) legal research ie., precedents set
 - 111) economic study to determine the economic viability of the Isolated Communities Advisory Board
2. Identify geographic areas already occupied by Metis and off-Reserve Indians
 - a) present land usage
 - b) approximate area used by individuals and/or families (relatives)
3. Identify areas based on needs;
 - a) farming - haymeadows
 - b) hunting - fishing - trapping
 - c) small businesses
 - d) cattle
 - e) timber etc.
4. Research and compilation of the studies already done with recommendations from the native people not to exceed one year from the date of inception to the final presentation to the Premier and Cabinet.
5. A MORATORIUM be placed on the land described to enable the native people to objectively and conclusively arrive at a position whereby their input into the future of the area will be a meaningful one.
6. Meetings to be held every two months between the Isolated Communities Advisory Board and Government to determine rate of progress and to plan future negotiations based on progress

THE ISOLATED COMMUNITIES ADVISORY BOARD

LAND TENURE

This is the major concern of all the isolated communities. The lack of land ownership is an obstruction to any development in these isolated areas. Without land these communities cannot take a step forward in improving their standard of living. Developments such as opening farm land, grazing and haymeadows can be had for the purpose of making life prosperous in these areas. The isolated communities, for more than six years, have been working together to settle land claims. The Isolated Communities Advisory Board was formed by these communities and since has been acting as the administrative part in pushing these land claims ahead for the people in the isolated communities. Though we have met just about every Government Department involved in land claims, we have not received any optimistic answers up to date. The people are getting restless, their question is simply, "Where is our land that we've been promised for a long time". Until we get land ownership, the following concerns cannot be proceeded upon;

HOUSING

The need for housing in the isolated communities is extremely critical. There is no Housing Program in existence that fits the requirements of the people in these settlements. The greatest hindrance to the isolated areas in obtaining housing is the lack of land ownership. Most Housing Departments require land ownership as security. The communities are not prepared to lease land individually. They wish to remain as a Community Association. They do not want their land lease broken up into individual lots. To subdivide and survey the community into individual leases would cost a lot of money that could be put to better use. These individual leases would also cause many problems in the community. Is there some fund which could provide grants or loans to each community so houses could be built for the community members.

EMPLOYMENT

This is another definite concern of the isolated communities. These people live in areas located in the richest part of the province. They are in the midst of the tar sands, abundant lakes for fishing and recreation parks and campsite purposes, plentiful timber areas and good arable and agricultural land. It seems strange that these settlements are without employment when with some help from Government they could develop these natural resources to the point where they could be self supporting, thus dispensing with the care taking system which is extremely costly to both the Provincial and Federal Governments.

EDUCATION

In view of employment, we have been requesting for programs that would take care of heavy equipment training, life skills training, administrative and secretarial training. With this type of training these people would be able to cope with the coming developments of these northern areas.

NORTHLAND SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

Although we already have representation on the Board of Trustees, this representation is poor as far as the isolated communities are concerned. We feel a representative from the isolated communities themselves would be more efficient and effective. The representatives we have presently do not see the school situations in the same way as the residents of these isolated areas.

ROADS AND AIRSTRIPS

All isolated community roads are impassable in wet weather. Considerable improvements are needed to bring them to all weather standards. Roads from communities to airstrips need a vast amount of work. These are extremely necessary for emergency purposes. Sandy Lake airstrip needs widening and lengthening, upgrading to make for safer landings.

ELECTRIFICATION - CADOTTE, LITTLE BUFFALO, PEBBLESS, TROUT LAKE

Little Buffalo - In February and March of 1975, 12 miles of line was constructed from the high voltage line south of the community under PEP winter works program. Considerable work needs to be done to complete the project. The line needs to be energized. Northland School generator is still supplying power for the school. There are hookups which could be made if the line were energized. AVC House Wiring Training Program is in some ways stalling these projects. House wiring is needed for some houses which were recently built. This program was to have started in July but has not started as yet. A lot of work still needs to be done to complete this project. Piling and burning on this 12 miles right of way has yet to be done. Funds were provided by PEP through Telephones and Utilities. Where can this community get funding to complete this project.

Community Dugout - Last year Department of Environment promised to do something about the water at Little Buffalo. A dugout with a water treatment plant was supposed to have been built as the water supply is extremely poor.

Roads - A road was supposed to be built from Cadotte Lake to Little Buffalo this summer. The road didn't get past Cadotte Lake for lack of money to continue the project. The powerline from Cadotte Lake was to go on the same right of way. 12 miles by 20 feet wide right of way will have to be cleaned if Cadotte Lake is to get power this year. The community do not wish to wait another year for their electricity.

Power Plants - These were promised for Peerless Lake and Trout Lake settlements for this year. When will the survey be made for the right of way for the power line through the community.

BUDGET FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS

In the time that the people of the isolated communities and the Advisory Board have had to relate to the Minister of Native Affairs, Mr. Bob Bogle and his staff, we have developed a good relationship with that agency and are favorably impressed by the interest and response we have received from Mr. Bogle and his staff. We are pleased with this relationship and understand a major reason why this Department is not able to be even more responsive and helpful to native communities is the lack of a sufficient budget to do many of the things they would like to. In view of our hope and optimism about the people in that Department being of real assistance to us, we would most seriously like to recommend that the Provincial Cabinet provide the Native Affairs Department with a substantially increased budget so that they may continue and increase the kind of help and services we see that they could provide.

A major problem that we, the isolated people of Northern Alberta perceive, is the inability of many parts of Government to respond to our expressed needs in a reasonable length of time. This is most discouraging and disheartening. It is very difficult for us to maintain hope and motivation to work toward our own betterment when we have to wait lengthy periods of time, sometimes even several years, for a response from Government to our needs and requests.

We feel this is a very serious problem in Government, one which needs to be given attention and action if we are to succeed in the future. One possible solution to this matter might be the institution of our previous recommendation that Native Affairs be provided with the necessary resources to provide a comprehensive and relevant service delivery and responsive system to native needs.

We would sincerely ask that you give this concern your attention.

NATIVE REPRESENTATION - NADC

The native people of Northern Alberta need representation in the Northern Alberta Development Council, meaning elected native leaders of different areas and organizations. These people know the situations, conditions and requirements of the Native and isolated communities. There would be better communication between the people of Northern Alberta and the Northern Alberta Development Council. The Northern Alberta Development Council should visit the different northern communities to get a true picture of the conditions and needs of these isolated areas.

BRIEF 143

Isolated Communities Advisory Board

Local Government Development Research Proposal

File # 143

File # 143

TO: Elden Schorn, Northern Development Group
FROM: The Isolated Communities Advisory Board

Research Proposal for Development of Local Government in the Isolated Communities.

The Isolated Communities Advisory Board, representing the seven communities of Loon Lake, Trout Lake, Sandy Lake, Peerless Lake, Chipewyan Lake, Cadotte Lake, and Little Buffalo have identified a definite need for local government within the settlements to foster the orderly development of these communities and to cope with the increasingly complex incursion of governmental and industrial agencies from mainstream society.

It is therefore proposed that the Isolated Communities Advisory Board will undertake the employment of a community Secretary Treasurer and a community worker in each settlement to determine the viability of locally employed, locally selected and supported personnel on a full time basis carrying out what approximates the municipal government function in the individual settlement. It is the belief of the Isolated Communities Advisory Board and the people of each settlement that the provision of full time personnel to carry on the business of the community will enhance local self determination and the responsible treatment by local people of local problems.

What follows now is in point form the objectives, description method and cost of the research study.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To determine whether the development of local government originating from a community base is a viable approach.
2. To determine by experiment what training and resources are necessary for the development of local government.
3. To enable the community to develop a comprehensive information gathering and dispensing system.
4. To enable the community to make more efficient use of existing resources.
5. To provide for increased participation by community members in the function of local government.
6. To remove the economic hardship of leaders and enabling them to act in the best interests of the community.

7. To create an atmosphere in which community people feel positive about working on their own community affairs.

DESCRIPTION AND METHOD:

1. The selection of a Secretary Treasurer and Community Worker by the community.
2. Employment of these people by the Isolated Communities Advisory Board for administrative purposes.

Active day to day supervision of these persons will be provided by each community Association. The Isolated Communities Advisory Board staff will provide support, supervision and training as requested by the local staff and/or Community Association and will play a major role in monitoring the program. In order to facilitate the successful operation in this program, we will utilize consultation and advice from the Isolated Communities Advisory Board, Preventive Social Services, Indian-Metis Liaison Group, Department of Municipal Affairs, Department of Advanced Education, C.Y.C., Recreation, Parks and Wildlife, Northern Development Group and any other agencies who may have services to offer in support of local government.

This project will commence September 1, 1975.

CRITERIA AND EVALUATION:

Evaluation will be on the basis of the observation of the local community (organization) Isolated Communities Advisory Board and those other agencies involved in this program. If in the opinion of the above mentioned, results are satisfactory, we will declare this as a satisfactory evaluation.

We will arrange a meeting at the end of four months and seven months involving all agencies connected with the program to assess and review what has taken place and to review reports which we will request from the communities involved every month and to make recommendations for further actions.

COST:

3 Community Workers
\$500.00 per month x 3 positions = \$1,500.00
per month x 7 months = \$10,500.00
(We have found alternate funding for four of the community workers thus are asking for support for three.)

7 Secretary Treasurers
\$500.00 per month x 7 positions = \$3,500.00
per month x 7 months = \$24,500.00

TOTAL

\$35,000.00

.....3/

Employee benefits and compulsory contributions

10% of \$35,000.00 = \$3,500

Materials, supplies and miscellaneous \$1,500.00

GRAND TOTAL

\$40,000.00

Cash flow

\$5,714.30 per month.

COMMENTS:

We would heartily recommend that you approve this project as it is much needed and in our opinion the communities mentioned are capable and willing to undertake this step. The matter of local Government has been under discussion for many months at the Board level and in each community and the communities have indicated to us that there is some urgency in undertaking this project now.

Respectfully submitted by the ISOLATED COMMUNITIES ADVISORY
BOARD
Box 1190
Slave Lake, Alberta

BRIEF 144

LAND TENURE - WABASCA AND DESMARAIS

Brule & George Dugan

ATTENTION: NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

#144

SEPT. 24, 1975 .

LETTER FROM LAND TENURE COMMITTEE OF WABASCA AND DESMARAIS

LADIES AND GENTLEMAN:

On behalf of the people of Wabasca and Desmarais, we are here to present to you the problems facing the people in regards to Land Ownership.

Many people have been living in Wabasca and Desmarais as far back as the 1800'S. The first actual survey was done in 1914. At that time Metis People could not have foreseen the full implications of the kind's of cash and land script settlements that were made. Looking back we know that the Metis people's interests in land had not been settled in such a manner that the long-term effects would be to their advantage. The possibility of rectifying this historical error of yesterday could have a positive, motivating effect to-day.

However, aside from the involvement of the people of Wabasca and Desmarais on the Land Tenure issue, there has been no formal consultation with the natives concerning the proposed policy guidelines. These are the things that have been asked for and the answer has always been that the Land Tenure Secreteriat will be set up in Wabasca and Desmarais. But WHEN??????????????

In 1967- 12 lots were surveyed at the request of the Kee-Wee-tin-nok Metis Local #129. All those lots are leased, even the two that are partly under water. With proper drainage there will be no problems.

In 1968 Alberta Housing came in and set up a subdivision. Some of the problems then and still are that people did not like living too close to one another and the houses built then were not for our cold northern climate. Some of these houses have now been vacant for a long time.

In 1973 Mr. D. Hutchings did an assesment of Wabasca and Desmarais. In that report he stressed the need for Land Tenure. It is now 2 years since that report was done and very few things have been done regarding it.

In 1974, Lands and Forests of Wabasca arranged a meeting to discuss the Hutching's Report concerning Land Tenure. They stated that the Government had accepted two aspects of Land Tenure for Wabasca and Desmarais;

- (1) The concept of ribbon settlement along the lakes.
- (2) Local Residents would not be compelled to move to new locations against their wishes.

In April of 1975, the Land Tenure Committee of Wabasca and Desmarais went twice to Edmonton to meet officials to present their Briefs concerning the Land situation in Wabasca and Desmarais:

- (1) A Brief presented to the Land Use Forum in Edmonton.

continued-

(2)

(2) A Brief presented to Minister of Native Affairs, Mr. Boo Bogle in Edmonton.

With all of these meetings, surveys, and counter surveys and assesment of Community needs done by Mr. D. Hachings, it should be known now that the people of Wabasca and Desmarais do need some sort of a land Settlement. In fact the high number of young people in these families living in Wabasca and Desmarais make it urgent. In the very near future Industries and other Businesses must expand to meet our needs. We can't wait.

The Land Tenure Settlement will bring some other needs and these other needs are:

brief 145

Dental Services in Lac La Biche

L.L.B. Regional Economic Development Council

Mr. Dowling, Members of the Northern Development Council
Ladies and Gentlemen.

The Lac La Biche Regional Economic Development Council appreciates this opportunity to address the Northern Alberta Development Council this evening on a matter which is of critical concern to Lac La Biche and to all of the communities of Northern Alberta. We have been very pleased in the past with the responses which have been made to our submissions and we know that you will examine this document with equal concern.

During the past year, the Coordinator of the R.E.D.C. has devoted a great deal of time to the provision of dental services for Lac La Biche. This evening we would like to review with you some of the problems which we have encountered in obtaining our objective and some of the solutions which we feel could contribute to the development of strong dental services in Northern communities..

As you are aware, the R.E.D.C. was successful in attracting two dental practitioners to our community in June of this year. A key factor in obtaining the services of these two recent graduates was the provision by the community of a dental clinic.

The dental clinic was equipped through cooperation between the Town of Lac La Biche and the Province of Alberta's Dental Health Director, Dr. A. Salter. Dr. Salter provided the facility with two complete portable operatories and one older dental unit for use as an x-ray chair. The Town of Lac La Biche, through a loan to local businessmen, purchased an x-ray unit, cavitron, lab instruments, a gonco suction, and an assortment of essential hand tools. The Chamber of Commerce appropriated funds for three months rental of the building in which the clinic was located. The dental clinic, on completion, housed, three operatories, an x-ray room, a lab area, a prep room, two wash-rooms and a waiting room. Appropriate office furniture was donated by a number of businesses. As a result, we were able to rent the complete clinic to the dentists for \$265/month.

Unfortunately, the two dentists left our community at the end of August. Their departure was a result of a large combination of problems which had not been anticipated. The fault for the problems lies with both the community and with the dentists. The following is a brief outline of the negative factors encountered in the Lac La Biche experience:

- 1) The dentists had always been city residents and were not committed to adjusting to life in a small town.
- 2) The dentists had no financial stake in the community and felt no commitment other than moral to participate in the affairs of the area.
- 3) Approximately 50% of the dental work done was on individuals receiving public assistance. Payments in all cases from Alberta Social Services took a considerable length of time. At times, the dentists were refused payment for supplying dentures to

patients who had received dentures within the last five years.

- 4) Local people were not used to either the concept of preventative dentistry or to the cost of dental care. As a result, they felt justifiably cheated when presented with a bill for services. The dentists initially charged A.D.A. rates, but later lowered their fees to 20% below that standard. Near the end of their term, they charged only on the ability of the individual to pay.
- 5) The dentists wished to practice preventative dentistry as they had learned in university. Most of their work in Lac La Biche was basic "drill, fill or pull" dentistry.
- 6) Both the dentists and the community practiced poor public relations. The dentists were not sensitive to the ways of a small community and the people were slow to accept new professionals.
- 7) ~~Poor~~ business administration on the part of the dentists.

The dentists treated a total of 514 people while in our community. When they left there was still \$2,000 in receivables, outstanding from patients paying cash.

Following the departure of the practitioners, the Development Council, in cooperation with a committee of the Chamber of Commerce examined the problems which were encountered and decided that efforts aimed at providing ongoing dental service for Lac La Biche should consist of two components. In the first place we are examining methods through which we can attract a dentist to Lac La Biche in the short run. In the second place we propose that the Provincial Government examine the feasibility of developing a dental health policy for Northern Alberta which would be designed to eliminate those negative factors which have been demonstrated through the Lac La Biche experience.

In respect to the question of proposing policy for consideration to the Province, the Development Council has requested a meeting between representatives of Alberta Social Services and

delegates from the Lac La Biche community. Prior to finalizing our proposal for this meeting we will meet with the Alberta Dental Association, and the University of Alberta in order to ensure that our concepts are both practical and realistic. We are also researching the policies which other provinces have adopted with respect to the provision of dental services to Northern communities.

This evening, while our research is not yet complete, we will present our policy concepts for the consideration and hopefully the support of the Northern Alberta Development Council.

1) The Alberta Dental Association

The R.E.D.C. respects the rights of the A.D.A. to determine the dental standards and thereby the entry of dental practitioners into the Province of Alberta as defined in the Dental Association Act (1970). In actual fact the majority of these dentists who are allowed to practice are graduates of the University of Alberta Dental Faculty. Few foreign dentists (other provinces and the United States excepted) have been able to qualify for admittance to the A.D.A. as a result of the high standards of dentistry which is practiced in our Province.

We appreciate the contro which is being exercised over the quality of dentistry in Alberta. However, this has been a major factor in retarding the numbers of dentists currently practicing in Alberta. Statistics obtained by the Northern Development Group in 1974, indicate that there are .54 dentists/1000 population in urban areas, while there are only .2 dentists/1000 population in Northern Alberta.

In light of these two factors we propose that the A.D.A. allow foreign dentists wishing to practice in Alberta but not able to pass the A.D.A. exams, an opportunity to engage in a two year internship period, under A.D.A. supervision in a rural area. Following this period, in order to qualify for full rights in the A.D.A. the individual would be required to pass the required examination.

We believe that this would serve the purpose of providing dental care to Northern Alberta and of expanding the numbers of dentists in the province in order to cope with the rapidly expanding population.

2) The University of Alberta.

In the second place, we believe that the expansion of the Dental Faculty at the University of Alberta is a necessity. At this time that are only 50 students per year admitted to the Faculty of Dentistry which is in no way adequate to fulfill the needs of an expanding Alberta.

We propose that the University consider establishing a quota system whereby a percentage of the students admitted annually to the school would come from rural Alberta. It is a lot easier to attract a country boy to the country than it is to attract a city boy to the country.

We feel that courses in business administration and public relations should be mandatory subjects for all students. Both are essential to the establishment and the smooth operation of a dental practice.

3) Rural Dental Clinics

The R.E.D.C. believes that dental clinics should be established in all new hospitals constructed in Northern Alberta. The inclusion of clinics in these hospitals would ensure that dental service would always be available in a rural region. If a resident practitioner could not be attracted to a community, at least the hospital could bring dentists or student dentists to each clinic on an itinerant basis.

Included in the rural dental clinic concept would be provision for the transportation of people from remote areas to the clinic in their region.

4) Financial Incentives

A comprehensive examination of the feasibility of

providing financial incentives to dentists in order to attract them to Northern communities should be undertaken.

The Development Council believes that the financial incentives could take two forms.

In the first place, third and fourth year students could be provided with bursaries which would cover all student expenses. In return, the dentist would agree to spend one or two years in a Northern community. This process has precedents in Alberta with respect to dental hygienists and in the past to teachers of the Northland School Division.

In the second place, communities could consider granting the resident practitioner an initial guaranteed income for a short period of time. Provision has already been made for this type of grant in the Municipal Act, however we have no knowledge as to whether a precedent has ever been established by its use.

5) Dental Health Care Insurance

In view of the costs of dental care and in light of the orientation of graduate dentists towards the practice of preventative dentistry, the inclusion of dental health care insurance should be included in the Provincial Medical Health Insurance policy. This has particular merit in providing dental care to low income groups. In Lac La Biche, the inability of a family to pay for the preservation of one child's teeth was a major factor in the financial difficulties which the dentist experienced.

6) Public Education

Concurrent to the expansion of dental services to Northern and rural areas should be the education of the public to the value of dental hygiene and to the concepts of preventative dentistry. If the university is engaged in teaching primarily preventative dentistry, then the public should be aware of the advantages which it offers. Education schemes for Northern Alberta could be developed with the cooperation of Keyano College, the Alberta Vocational Centres and with all school administrations.

The R.E.D.C. has developed a strategy which we hope will be instrumental to the development of a short run solution to dental problems in Lac La Biche.

- 1) We are attempting to obtain financing in order that we may retain our dental clinic. The inexpensive facility is in itself an incentive for the attraction of a resident dentist. Through grants from local businesses, we have sufficient funds to pay the rent until the end of December. In order to retain the facility and if we have not attracted a resident dentist by that date, we will approach Improvement District #18 for a grant, which will ensure the existence of the clinic for a further six months. Should no practitioner demonstrate an intention in considering a move to Lac La Biche, to the end of that period, we will close the clinic.

Should the Lac La Biche General Hospital receive approval for a dental clinic in their new hospital then all equipment will be sold to them.

- 2) The Town of Lac La Biche and the R.E.D.C. are sponsoring advertisements for a resident dentist in the C.D.A. Journal and in Dental Hygiene.
- 3) We have requested the assistance of Dr. Salter and the A.D.A. in finding a volunteer dentist who will serve Lac La Biche on an itinerant basis.
- 4) We are proposing to initiate a public education programme on the benefits and costs of preventative dentistry. This programme will be developed in conjunction with A.V.C. Lac La Biche, Preventative Social Services and the Lac La Biche School Division.

Lac La Biche is fully aware of the implications of the proposals which we have presented this evening. We believe that each area of policy should be fully examined and if possible, implemented over the long run.

This evening we specifically request the support of the Northern Alberta Development Council in the following areas of policy which could conceivably be implemented in the near future.

- 1) Support for the inclusion of a dental clinic in the new Lac La Biche General Hospital.
- 2) Support for our discussions with the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Alberta concerning allowing rural students into the Faculty on a percentage quota basis.
- 3) Support for our request to Improvement District #18 to provide the necessary funds through which we can retain the facility.
- 4) Assistance in the examination of a scheme of feasible financial incentives to attract dentists to rural areas.

We appreciate the opportunity to discuss the problems associated with the provision of dental services with the Northern Alberta Development Council this evening. We also offer our thanks specifically to Eldon Schorn, Paul Conway, Roy Piepenburg and Rick Paley for the assistance which they have provided to this time. The R.E.D.C. has always experienced a positive relationship with the N.A.D.C. and we are confident that the brief which we have presented will receive your full consideration.

146

verbal brief
by George Auger
Assessment of Community Needs

147

verbal brief by
Hugh Pepper on
intercultural education

148

Leonard Houle

verbal brief

Métis Local 161

Brief 149

Hiring Practices in Fort McMurray Area

submitted by Lorne Wilson, Anzac community

HIRING PRACTICES IN FORT MCMURRAY

The people in the Fort McMurray area and in particular in Anzac are concerned that local people do not receive priority in the hiring practices of Syncrude, Bechtel and other sub-contractors in the area. Some preference is given to the labor positions for graduates of the pre-employment labour training program, but no preference is given for any of the skilled positions or apprentice jobs. In fact, the people of the area are at a disadvantage in that all hiring is done through union halls in Edmonton, and people in the isolated communities must come to Edmonton to get on the union list. This is sometimes difficult and costly and very seldom results in placement for local people. Is there not some way that people in the area can receive an opportunity for placement if they have the necessary skills and are willing to do the job?

submitted by Lorne Wilson, community of Anzac

BRIEF 150

TV Coverage - Slave Lake

TOWN OF SLAVE LAKE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

SLAVE LAKE, ALBERTA — TOG 2A0
BRIEF TO THE NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

By and on Behalf of
The Town of Slave Lake and District

Gentlemen:

There is a certain standard, a quality of life and living that all citizens of Alberta aspire to attain. We are encouraged by the Government, we are taught and given the values of a system that expects and requires this "quality of life" for all it's people. The Government of Alberta is on record that it will improve the standards of rural life and by a decentralization policy try to improve the economy of rural Alberta. During the last election one of the campaign promises of the government was an unequivocal promise to see that the Lesser Slave Lake area in particular and Northern Alberta in general would receive improved and diversified coverage by television, the communication media that is now a way of life in our society. Further that, a choice of television was a right and that no one should be captive audience to the Canadian Broadcasting Company.

Nothing appears to be happening, a few months previously an appeal to this same body was made but nothing has been communicated back to this community so we presume that nothing has been done.

We do not believe that it is necessary to go into the reasons for such a request at least in depth. We believe that everyone will agree that television is taken for granted by Canadians even in the furthest and remotest corners of our country.

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Slave Lake has a population of approximately 4,000 people and a further 2,000 live along the south east shore of the lake. The C.B.C. transmitter at Grouard - High Prairie transmits a signal that can be picked up 60 miles away in Slave Lake. The signal varies, but at the best it is classified as not satisfactory. On record, C.B.C. does not consider that they cover the Slave Lake area. This community then is the largest area in Western Canada without television coverage.

If Northern Alberta wishes to attract industry, it must attract management and skilled people. To attract these people we are in competition with other areas of the country that offer all the modern amenities of today's way of life. If we are to compete we must be competitive and have just as much to offer in entertainment and comfort.

The rest of Canada including Edmonton and Calgary feed off the resources of the land. They grow rich on the products of our farms, our forest, our oil fields and other resources. But someone must live in rural Alberta if their resources are to flow and maintain the standard of living of the large urban centres. Edmonton and Calgary have many cultural opportunities that are denied rural people and yet the universities, the auditoriums are sponsored by all the people of Alberta.

Therefore it is our hope that somebody in the government can actually do something and see the justification of a practical program to get wider and diversified T.V. coverage in Northern Alberta.

It is our understanding that D.R.E.E. through the "Northern Agreement" will consider supporting such a program of T.V. distribution as long as the C.B.C. are predominant in the package but apparently they have had no official request to pursue such a project by the province.

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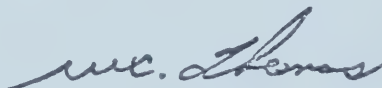
We are plagued in government circles with an endless series of committees turning out an endless list of recommendations but no decision. Where do the recommendations go? Who implements? What has been done? Why is there no follow up? What can we do?

In summary, we have been promised T.V. by the province, we understand there is federal support for T.V. through the Northern Agreement, there is acceptance that everyone should be able to watch T.V., that T.V. has many social benefits in communities to native people.

Why can't we get something done?

There is surely justification in this government sponsoring a project to give rural and northern Albertans at least some benefit of the national communication and entertainment of its national T.V. networks. We realize that economically this is not possible for the private enterprise channels. It is therefore incumbent on the government to provide a subsidy such as providing the arterial transmission system so that these programs can be seen by everyone.

Recent polls show that Edmonton C.B.C. has the least listened to news of the three networks. It is considered by many to be biased and one sided in its presentation and it is not right that a large segment of the people should be presented with one group's interpretation of the news.



W.C. Thomas
MAYOR
Town of Slave Lake

BRIEF 151

McLennan Municipal Airstrip

TOWN OF McLENNAN

Office of the Municipal Secretary

P.O. BOX 187= 356

McLENNAN

Alberta

Brief # 16

September 24 th 1975

Mr. Len Pelland,
Member, Northern Development Council,
McLennan, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

The Council of the Town of McLennan would like to express its deep concern to the Northern Development Council relative to the McLennan Municipal Airport. Council is now informed that although the application of the Town had been properly submitted and processed, a total freeze has been put on the project pending alternate proposals concerning a regional airport. The Town submitted an application to the Transport Research and Development Branch of Alberta Transportation in December 1974; the Town also submitted a brief to the Northern Development Council and received support for its application.

It is the feeling of Council that the freeze should be removed from this project and that the engineering and feasibility studies should be carried out in view of the fact that the Town of McLennan has already spent over \$20,000.00 for land and subdivision fees for this project.

You will find attached herewith, a copy of a data sheet on the McLennan Municipal Airport which should be useful to you in this matter.

Sincerely,


Laurent J. Lamoureux
Municipal Administrator and
Member, McLennan Airport Commission.

encl: 1

McLennan Municipal Airport.

DATA SHEET.

- 1: All the land is assembled: Original land purchased in 1963 at cost of \$4,800.00. Additional 162 acres purchased at a cost of \$18,385.00 plus legal and subdivision fees, total present value over \$23,000.00
- 2: Present and proposed strip direction is excellent, being North West- South East: Prevailing winds in this area are from the North West.
- 3: Easy Access: Proximity to:
 - : Pavement,
 - : Hospital
 - : RCMP.
 - : Hotel
 - : Restaurant
 - : Population
- 4: Does not infringe on present or future residential areas.
- 5: Ample room for development of compatible services (hangars ect).
- 6: Present use of the land where proposed extension is to take place is marginal farm land and bush. No infringement on good quality farm land.
- 7: Ample room for development of light industry without infringement on required airspace.
- 8: Application was made in December 1974 and is being processed.
- 9: Town's cash investment into the present Airstrip of over \$20,000.00
- 10: McLennan is acknowledged as Transportation Centre:(Hon Hugh Horner- Speech in McLennan March 1975).

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Brief 152

Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park

Brn 18

September 17, 1975

To: Northern Alberta Development Council

From: Slave Lake Beach Road Action Committee
c/o Mrs. Angie Sequin, Slave Lake, Alberta (849-4238)

Re: Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park

Slave Lake Beach Road Action Committee, a group of residents formed in July 1973 at a public meeting in Slave Lake when over 70 local residents protested certain aspects of the planning and operating of Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park, hereby informs the Northern Alberta Development Council that the Committee has been revived due to renewed and increased concern about the Provincial Park by the residents of Slave Lake and Area.

The Action Committee is concerned with the following items:

1. Closure and/or maintenance of all roads within the park now used by the public; BEACH ROAD - MAIN POINT OF CONCERN - TO S. LAKE RESIDENTS
2. The high level of Lesser Slave Lake which has eliminated a good portion of the tourist-attracting Lesser Slave Lake Beach; and
3. Park policies regarding picnic use of the beach area and other restrictions possibly interfering with the public's enjoyment of the Park and its facilities.

Of primary concern to the Committee is the predicted closure of certain sections of park roads which will eliminate viewing of Lesser Slave Lake by vehicle traffic and create problems of access to the beach for both emergencies (i.e., attached inquest report on drowning recommends better access) and the comfort of senior citizens and handicapped persons.

In general, the Action Committee is concerned that there is presently no avenue for local input into the planning of the Provincial Park which appears to be done in Edmonton by professional planners who could possibly benefit from the knowledge and experiences of local persons who have lived near and used the park for many years. The need for local input in park planning has also been suggested by the Slave Lake Pioneers Senior Citizens Club and Slave Lake Town Council (as evidenced by attached materials).

Therefore, the Action Committee seeks Northern Alberta Development Council's support and advice in its campaign to have the Provincial Parks Branch recognize the essential need and benefits of having local input in regards to the planning and operating policies of Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park.

LAND USE ADVOCATE COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

for

REDA Operation Land Use

1 Subject: DEVELOPMENT OF LAKE SHORE - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

2 Location: Slave Lake 3 Date: December 2, 1974

4 Prepared by: J. Gordon Berg

Chairman: Tony Lestar Address: Box 21, Slave Lake

Other Committee Members:

Aaron Lehman, Box 292, Slave Lake

Gordon Berg, Box 890, Slave Lake

Val Merideth, Box 518, Slave Lake

Ed Courtoreille, Canyon Creek

5 Jack Muza

REDA Field Representative

Alberta



LAND USE FORUM

1. State and define the specific LAND USE CONCERN that your LAND ADVOCATE COMMITTEE has studied.

Our basic concern is that there seems to be no public input as to what land should be allocated for parks and recreation use and planning of these parks and recreation areas. Specifically the Lake Shore and Provincial Park.

2. Why is this a concern?
(What is the present situation?)

SOLUTIONS:

1. Introduce a complete moratorium on use of borrow pits in sand dunes area east of the beach.

Begin a reclamation program immediately. Include this area and the "Jackpines" area in the Provincial Park and open to public only by trails and canoe. Exclude motor vehicles.

2. Consider a complete ban on all logging operations which are facing and can be viewed from the valley. This should include areas of the Marten Hills, Flat Top and Sawridge Hills. The forest of this area is of greatest value standing rather than supporting a questionable pulp industry. Where logging is carried out, a buffer zone should be required between the cutting and a road way.
3. Show support for the Provincial Parks Master Plan Study and the proposed extension. (General Standards - Plan - p. 56 & 57)
4. Contract a study for the whole North shore of Lesser Slave Lake similar to that done on the Provincial Park Area before any planning is carried out. It appears that this area is most valuable as is, rather than opened to commercial development. The proposed North Shore Wilderness Camp would seem to compliment This idea and also those in the Parks Master Plan.
5. Regulation of the water level of Lesser Slave Lake should be considered only in conjunction with a wildlife management program for the complete area including lake shore, muskeg and the entire Lesser Slave River and adjacent valley. The management of this area should have priority over any regulation for recreation and commercial requests.
6. Preservation of historical and archeological sites.
Establish a museum east of Entrance to Provincial Park.

(Rest of questions were not answered)

BRIEF 153

Road Improvements - Chipewyan Lake

Bull #18

CHIPWEYAN LAKE BRIEF TO NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL

The residents of Chipewyan Lake settlement wish to enlist the help of the Northern Alberta Development Council in acquiring a grant of \$30,000 for the construction of 8 miles of road within the community.

An all weather road is desperately needed in this community especially in cases of emergencies. Our only access to Slave Lake, a hospital or industrial area is by air. There is an excellent Forestry airstrip in this settlement but the present road from the community to the airstrip is practically useless especially in wet weather.

This money would be used to hire heavy equipment to raise up the road and completed with a gravel surface.

An application has been made through LIP for monies to be used as wages.

May we hear a favorable reply so a proper proposal may be drawn up?

Respectfully submitted by the residents of Chipewyan Lakes Community.

